

# United States Patent [19]

Osborne

[11] **Patent Number:** **5,590,548**  
 [45] **Date of Patent:** **Jan. 7, 1997**

[54] **CIRCULARLY KNIT LEGGED PANTY HAVING KNIT-IN SHAPING PANELS, AND A BLANK AND METHOD FOR MAKING SAME**

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[21] Appl. No.: **482,553**

[22] Filed: **Jun. 7, 1995**

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## Related U.S. Application Data

[63] Continuation-in-part of Ser. No. 382,864, Feb. 3, 1995.

[51] **Int. Cl.**<sup>6</sup> ..... **A41B 9/02; A41B 9/04; A41B 9/06; A41C 1/00**

[52] **U.S. Cl.** ..... **66/177; 66/171; 450/99; 2/401; 2/406**

[58] **Field of Search** ..... **66/171, 176, 177, 66/153; 450/99; 2/401-406**

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## [57] ABSTRACT

The invention discloses a legged panty having strategically located support panels for minimizing the appearance of undesirable body bulges, particularly along a wearer's stomach, hips and thighs. The panty is circularly knit, and the support panels are integrally knit using a modified knit structure to provide these regions with a greater resistance to stretching, particularly coursewise stretching. In a preferred form of the invention, first and second support panels extend vertically along the outer side of the leg portions, to correspond with the outer thigh regions of a wearer. The panty legs are finished via an integrally knit turned welt located at their terminal ends. The panty also desirably includes a U-shaped or anchor shaped support panel about the gluteal crease region in order to provide support for the buttocks, and additional yarn courses provide areas of added fabric fullness, particularly at the regions corresponding to the buttock cheeks. A stomach bulge control panel is also disclosed, as are a method and blank for making the panty with the body-contouring support panels.

**36 Claims, 2 Drawing Sheets**

